



## ILLINOIS HOMELAND SECURITY UPDATE November 20, 2001

George H. Ryan  
GOVERNOR

Matt Bettenhausen  
Homeland Security Director

Governor George Ryan announced that he is seeking a supplemental appropriation of \$17 million to meet the state's immediate needs for domestic preparedness. The money will bolster the state's proactive efforts to reduce our vulnerability to terrorism by establishing a pharmaceutical stockpile for first responders, initiating a Homeland Security fund, increasing funding for the training of first responders and investing in the state public health lab system.

"Planning and preparation is our focus. Vigilance is our watchword," Governor Ryan said. "But our mission is never done. So...I am announcing our plans to request funding from the General Assembly to ensure we have the tools we need to protect our people."

Governor Ryan's plans include:

- \$2 million to provide more specialized terrorism related training for local firefighters and police officers throughout the state.
- \$2.5 million for a pharmaceutical stockpile of drugs and antidotes for first responders so that they can respond and assist the public in the event of a chemical, biological or nuclear incident.
- \$7 million for a Homeland Security fund under Homeland Security Coordinator Matt Bettenhausen. This fund would be used to cover extraordinary equipment or personnel expenses for security and public safety.
- \$4 million to enhance the Illinois Department of Public Health system, including expanding the ability to test and identify biological agents at three public health labs

in Chicago, Springfield and Carbondale, cutting turnaround time from two days to two hours. Also, this money would help fund a laboratory information management system and a rapid disease reporting system.

"This is a further investment in the immediate needs of the state," Governor Ryan said. "We also will continue to work with Congress as they work to pass a homeland security and anti-terrorism package."

The Governor's Homeland Security Regional Training Seminars were presented last week and this week in Grayslake, Rockford, Chicago, Collinsville, Macomb and Grayville. Thirteen sessions have been presented to date. A total of 16 sessions will eventually be conducted around the state, with sessions being held the week of November 26 at the dates and times listed below. Information on future sessions can be found on the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) web site ([www.state.il.us/iema](http://www.state.il.us/iema)). Reservations to attend a session may be made by calling 1-800-247-5010.

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Community</u>	<u>Location</u>
November 27, 2001 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.	Effingham	Knights of Columbus
November 28, 2001 9 a.m.-1 p.m.	Urbana	Park Inn
November 29, 2001 9 a.m-1 p.m.	Quincy	Blessing Hospital Health Education Center

- The American Red Cross (ARC) met with the Illinois Education Association to discuss classroom and curriculum issues related to preparedness and crisis assistance for school children and teachers. The ARC continues to work with the Governor's Office, IEMA, the Office of the State Fire Marshal, and the Illinois National Guard to plan follow-up seminars and training for community preparedness.
- Police agencies continue to receive requests to investigate suspicious packages, though the number of calls is leveling off. None of the 1121 substances analyzed to date by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) have tested positive for anthrax .

- The Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety (IDNS) Radiological Assessment and Coordinated Emergency Response (RACER) Team has received additional training including an orientation on terrorism, the current threat, and what the state is doing in response to the threat. The RACER Team is available to assist local response organizations in dealing safely with incidents involving radioactive material.
- The IDPH completed Version 1.0 of the Illinois Smallpox Response Plan. The statewide plan outlines public health command and control protocols and guidelines for surveillance, isolation, mass vaccination, decontamination, and public information.
- The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Lake Michigan Enforcement Unit continues to conduct both land and water security patrols. A number of water craft have been stopped for breaking the 100-yard security boundary established for protected areas. The vessels are boarded and told to stay clear of these areas. IDNR Conservation Police Officers have received requests from some power stations to investigate illegal hunting and trespassing on utility land.
- The Illinois State Police (ISP), Illinois Department of Transportation - Aeronautics (IDOT-A), and the ESDA Director in Gallatin County were contacted regarding biplanes flying over barges on the Ohio River. As reported in the media, the matter is under investigation. The FBI Office in St. Louis is the lead agency in the investigation with the ISP assisting.
- IDOT-Aviation continues to make inspections at randomly selected airports. Airport managers are reminded to be vigilant as to suspicious personnel and/or operations at their facility.
- The Illinois National Guard (ILNG) increased its airport security detail assigned to 11 airport facilities

around the state. President Bush has authorized federal funds for a 25 percent increase in National Guard forces stationed at the airports. Their duties will include monitoring passenger and baggage screening, monitoring terminal activity, securing perimeter control, and securing vehicles and garages, to name a few. Increased strength will be in place at least through the holiday season.

- The Department of Central Management Services (CMS) has arranged for the United States Postal Service to conduct detailed training sessions in Chicago and Springfield to train mail room employees on how to handle incoming and outgoing mail. The Chicago session is scheduled for November 19 at 10 a.m. at the James R. Thompson Center; the Springfield session for November 20 at 3 p.m. in the Illinois State Museum Auditorium. Additional seminars are planned and will be announced in future editions. The training is available to agency mail room supervisors.
- The American Red Cross (ARC) provided an update and briefing on Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) to every senior level Red Cross chapter manager in Illinois. ARC appointed a WMD Coordinator, based at the Heart of America Blood Region in Peoria, to address issues and policies affecting blood collection and blood supply in Illinois.
- More than 800 (of 1209) fire departments have responded to an Office of the State Fire Marshal survey concerning computers and electronic mail addresses. Those which have not responded will be contacted this week so the survey can be completed. An equipment and communications survey will be sent within a few days.
- The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) Energy Division and others are reviewing ways in which limitations might appropriately be imposed on the availability to the public of sensitive information about critical public service infrastructures.

- IICC Hazardous Materials Inspectors are currently inspecting a significant number of rail cars transporting hazardous material per day. These inspections are conducted in rail yards and by watching moving trains from a fixed location.

The Director of the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) is scheduled to speak to all major agricultural commodity groups at IDOA's Commodity Conference, November 20, in Bloomington, on the need for additional on-farm and agribusiness security.